

REMARKS

We request approval of the drawing correction shown in red on the attached drawing copy.

The amendments to the specification address minor clerical matters and make the "Summary of the Invention" consistent with the main claims 12 and 21 as amended herein.

Claims 12 to 23 are in the application. We request reconsideration of the rejection of these claims as being anticipated by Russello et al or as being unpatentable over Russello et al in view of Strawick.

Russello et al does disclose a light fixture with a perforated heat shield. However, the heat shield is mounted in such a fashion that its main planar surface 60 (Pat. Fig. 5) is directly opposite the light bulb or lamp 16 and thus reflects light directly back into the lamp, thereby causing re-reflections and increasing the temperature of the lamp thereby shortening its operating life.

In that reference at Pat. Col. 3, line 16-21 it is made clear that the sieve reflector 58 there reflects visible light onto the arcuate reflector sections 18,20 of reflector 12. This is completely contrary to the teaching in the present application on page 7 and in FIG. 7 which show that the surfaces of the heat shield which face the lamp and the reflector are so angled as to ensure that light incident thereon from the lamp is not reflected (back) towards the lamp and reflector.

To emphasize this distinction, independent claims 12 and 21 have been amended to specify that the heat shield has at least one surface facing the reflector means and directly receives light from a lamp incident on that surface, each said surface being angled relative to the lamp receiving fixture to prevent light from the lamp being reflected towards the lamp and the reflector means.

As noted above, this angling of the surfaces of the heat shield ensures that the light incident thereon from the lamp is not reflected back towards the lamp and its reflector thereby minimizing re-reflections and optimizing the lifespan of the lamp.

Claims 13 to 20 and claims 22 and 23 being dependent upon claim 12 or 21 are allowable for the same reasons.

With regard to the rejection of claims 18 to 20 as being unpatentable over Russello et al. in view of Strawick, the latter reference discloses a reflector 39 positioned immediately in front of the lamp 14 and which, as seen in Pat. Fig. 7, clearly reflects light back into the lamp and towards the main reflector. Thus, the claims patentably distinguish Strawick for the same reasons given above in connection with Russello et al.

The fact is that the references of record considered alone or in any paper combination fail to disclose a light fixture having a heat shield with a surface which is angled relative to the lamp receiving fixture to prevent light from the lamp from being reflected toward the lamp and the reflector, as required by claims 12 and 21 as amended herein.

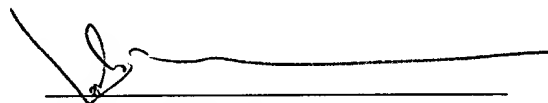
Finally, we are enclosing an Information Disclosure Statement citing two Japanese patents that are of record in a corresponding Japanese national phase application. Japanese publication 1994-60915 discloses two perforated heat shields, the shield 2 of Fig. 1 with perforations 3, and the shield 8 of Figs. 2 to 4 with perforations 9. In both instances, the shield is angled back to reflect light into the light source.

Similarly, in Japanese publication 1992-23001, the heat shield 5 of Figs. 1-5 is flat and the heat shield 5 of Fig. 10 is concave. Both heat shields 5 reflect light back into the light source, contrary to applicant's claimed invention.

Accordingly and for the foregoing reasons, claims 12 to 23 should be allowed.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,



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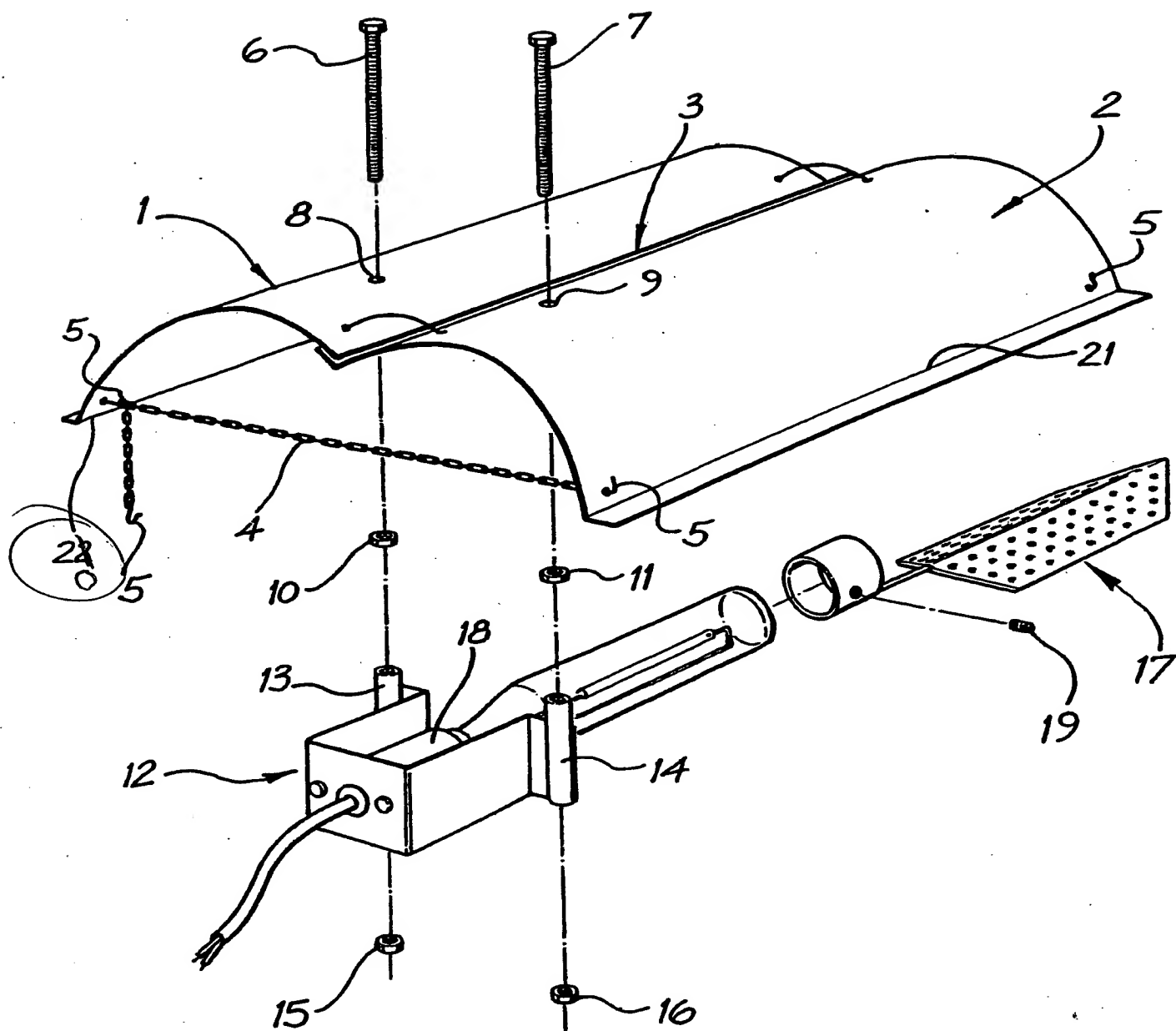


FIG. 3